

[Translation]

Terrorist Activities in Tarai Region

*349. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for checking the increasing terrorist activities in the Tarai region of the State;

(b) when this proposal was received by the Union Government;

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(d) the total amount asked for by the Government of Uttar Pradesh through the above proposal and the amount actually sanctioned by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) to (d). The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh had written to the Home Minister in October 1991 seeking Central assistance for combating terrorist activities in the State. A detailed proposal in this regard has been received from the State Government early this month. Among other things, the State Government has requested for additional paramilitary force, as well as weapons for the State police. The State Government has estimated the cost of the schemes for combating terrorism at Rs. 36 crores and has requested the Center to meet at least half of this cost. The proposal is under examination. Some assistance in terms of weapons and additional para-military forces is already being provided.

[English]

Citizens' Committees in J & K

*350. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up district-level citizens' committees in Jammu & Kashmir to counter the growing influence of militants; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The Government of Jammu & Kashmir has decided to constitute District Advisory Groups to assist the District Development Commissioners in different aspects of district administration including developmental matters. The Advisory Groups are to consist of MICS, former MPs and MLAs, Sarpanches, representatives of recognised political parties and scheduled castes/tribes, academicians and prominent social workers. To start with these groups have been constituted in the Jammu region.

[Translation]

Post Office in Each Gram Sabha

*351. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any long term scheme to open a Post Office in each Gram Sabha of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the States in which the said scheme is being implemented at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) While for locating a post office, gram panchayat headquarters are given preference, the criteria that is followed for opening post offices in rural areas is satisfaction of certain norms relating to